

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MAPUTO 00255 151530Z

ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00

INR-07 NSAE-00 CU-02 DODE-00 /056 W

-----151712Z 041014 /47

R 151014Z MAR 77

FM AMEMBASSY MAPUTO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5575

INFO AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

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CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, SEDU, MZ

SUBJECT: GOVERNMENT ABOLISHES TWO SECONDARY SCHOOL GRADES AND
CALLS STUDENTS TO PUBLIC SERVICE

1. SPEAKING BEFORE A MASSED GATHERING OF STUDENTS IN MAPUTO ON
MARCH 8 PRESIDENT SAMORA MACHEL ANNOUNCED NEW MEASURES TAKEN "BY
THE LEADERSHIP" IN THE FIELD OF EDUCATION. IN SUMMARY, HE NOTED
THAT HENCEFORTH THE PARTY AND THE STATE WILL DECIDE WHAT VOCA-
TIONAL PURSUITS STUDENTS SHOULD FOLLOW UPON LEAVING SCHOOL, AND
THAT THESE MUST BE IN THE INTEREST OF THE NEW SOCIETY AND
CORRESPOND TO PROPER MARXIST-LENINIST GUIDELINES. STANDARDS 10
AND 11 OF SECONDARY EDUCATION (THE LAST TWO YEARS OF SECONDARY
EDUCATION, GENERALLY COLLEGE PREPARATORY EDUCATION) WERE ABOLISHED.
THE 600 STUDENTS CURRENTLY IN THESE GRADES WILL BE ASSIGNED WORK
AS TEACHERS, FARMERS, AND CIVIL SERVANTS, ALTHOUGH SOME WILL BE
GIVEN THE OPPORTUNITY FOR FURTHER UNIVERSITY EDUCATION. MACHEL
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PAGE 02 MAPUTO 00255 151530Z

SAID THE PARTY AND STATE LOOK TO THE YOUNG STUDENTS TO COOPERATE
WILLINGLY IN THE TASKS TO BE ASSIGNED TO THEM, ESPECIALLY THOSE
WHO WILL BE ASSIGNED TO THE ARMED SERVICES. "ACCORDINGLY, A PART
WILL GO TO THE NAVY...OTHERS TO THE AIR FORCE...OTHERS WILL GO TO
HANDLE TANKS, ARMORED VEHICLES AND MISSILES...OTHERS WILL GO TO
THE FACTORIES, TO FARMING, TO TEACHING."

2. COMMENT: SEVERAL ALLUSIONS WERE MADE SUGGESTING THAT THE GOVERNMENT LOOKS TO THE STUDENTS TO TAKE UP POSITIONS BEING VACATED BY DEPARTING PORTUGUESE CONTRACT WORKERS -- A NOBLE IDEA BUT HARDLY PRACTICAL. THE STATEMENT THAT STUDENTS CAN BE ASSIGNED TO THE ARMED SERVICES -- IN FACT A DRAFT -- IS LIKELY TO BE QUITE UNPOPULAR, AND IN GENERAL WE SUSPECT THIS DECISION WILL NOT BE WELL RECEIVED BY THE STUDENTS OR THEIR PARENTS.
DE PREE

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Message Attributes

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Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 15-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
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Disposition Approved on Date:
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